

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1. (currently amended): A method to recover one or more ~~fluorescent~~ individual desired living cells separate from any ~~non-fluorescent~~ undesired cells ~~from a~~ in a sample of tissue, which method comprises mechanically, using expression of a first fluorescent protein in the desired cells as a guide, separating from the sample of tissue one or more desired living cells ~~that produce a fluorescent protein from any~~ from undesired cells in the surrounding tissue ~~that do not produce said first fluorescent protein using surgical procedures~~,

thereby recovering one or more desired living cells ~~that produce said first fluorescent protein~~ separate from any undesired cells ~~that do not produce said first fluorescent protein~~.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the cells that produce the first fluorescent protein are tumor cells.

3-4. (canceled)

5. (original): The method of claim 2, wherein the tumor cells are metastatic tumor cells of the lung, bone, lymph node or liver.

6. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the first fluorescent protein is a green fluorescent protein or a red fluorescent protein.

7. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more living desired cells recovered consists of a single living cell.

8. (previously presented): The method of claim 2, wherein said cells that produce said first fluorescent protein are present in an immunocompromised laboratory animal.

9. (previously presented): The method of claim 8, which further comprises transferring cells that produce said first fluorescent protein to at least one additional immunocompromised animal.

10. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, which further comprises subjecting the recovered one or more desired living cells ~~that produce said first fluorescent protein~~ to gene expression analysis.

11. (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein said undesired cells contained in the tissue ~~that do not produce the first fluorescent protein~~ produce a second fluorescent protein that emits a different wavelength from the first fluorescent protein.

12. (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the sample is contained in a living animal.